THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) to (c) The action taken reports on the recommendations of National Commission on Teachers-I have been laid on the Table of the Sabha on 11-12-87 and 13-5-88. Further, keeping in view the recommendations of this Commission, postulates of National Policy on Education and the recommendations of Fourth Central Pay Commision, the pay scales of school teachers under Union Territories and Central autonomous bodies like Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, Central Tibetan Schools Administration, etc. were revised on 12-8-87. The scales of pay applicable for teachers of classes XI and XII are not the same as of college lecturers. There is no proposal for further revision of these pay scales.

Consumer Protection Act, 1986

80. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some Government Departments/ Public Undertakings are trying to avoid the application of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 for the services rendered by them and thus depriving the consumers of the benefit of this important legislation;

(b) if so, the steps taken to ensure that all the services rendered by the Government Departments of Public Undertakings are covered by the provision of this Act; and

(c) the names of the Ministries/ Departments and Public Undertakings against which complaints have been received by the National/State Commissions/Councils for consumers' protection, alongwith the details of complaints received during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) and (b) The Department of Telecommunication had earlier issued instructions to its field units stating that the telephone services were exempted from the purview of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. However, these instructions were withdrawn after due consultation with the Ministry of Law and Justice.

(c) As per the information received so far 43 cases have been filed in the National Commission, 1 in Andhra Pradesh State Commission, 1 in Maharashtra and 60 in UP State Commission. These complaints are mainly against Railways, Telephones, Muncipalities, Housing Development Authorities, Airlines, Banks, Life Insurance Corporation, etc. The Councils do not entertain complaints as they are only advisory bodies. However, Government of Maharashtra has reported that State Consumers Protection Council has received two complaints against IIT, Bombay and Andhra Pradesh Scooters Ltd.

Representations against shifting of Thorium Plant at Trombay

81. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received representations from the Maharashtra Government and others against the shifting of thorium plant at Trombay (Bombay);

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether Government propose to reconsider the decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) Government have received in the past representations from the Maharashtra Government against shifting of the Thorium Plant at Trombay.

(b) and (c) The existing plant is to be replaced as it is very old and beyond economical repair and service. The Atomic Energy Commission deci-

ded to shift out of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre premises in Trombay, plants and laboratories which are not directly related to the R & D programme of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre. The employees who opt to shift to the new location will be transferred, whereas others will be provided alternative employment in other units of Department of Atomic Energy located in Bombay. These who opt to take voluntary retirements will be paid due compensation. There is no proposal to reconsider the decision in this matter.

Modernisation and Rehabilitation of Sugar Units

82. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the modernisation and rehabilitation of old and weak sugar units;

(b) if so, the number of such sugar units identified in different parts of the country;

(c) whether any such units has been identified in Orissa also; and

(d) the details of funds provided for the modernisation and rehabilitation of the old and weak sugar units in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There are 80 sugar factories, including 2 sugar factories in the State of Orissa, which are either of sub-optimal capacity (below 1250 TCD) or where plant and machinery is more than 25 years old.

(d) A statement giving the State-wise position of funds provided so far the Sugar Development Fund for modernisation and rehabilitation of sugar units in the country is enclosed. (*See* below).

Statement

Statement showing State-wise position of funds provided for the modernisation and rehabilitation of the sugar units in the country

(Position as on 15-12-1989)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Amount disbursed (Rs. in Crores)
1	Andhra Pradesh	0·40
2	Bihar	3·91
3	Karnataka	0·42
4	Punjab	4·29
5	Maharashtra	11·85
6	Tamil Nadu	4·24
7	Uttar Pradesh	34.87
	TOTAL	59·98